

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒ X  
no ☐

Property Name: Superintendents House, Spring Grove Inventory Number: BA-2344  
Address: Spring Grove Hospital City: Catonsville Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
County: Baltimore County USGS Topographic Map: Baltimore West  
Owner: DHMH Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes  
Tax Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Site visit by MHT staff: ☐ no ☒ X yes Name: L. Bowlin, 1985 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the property is located within a historic district? ☒ X yes ☐ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: BA-2319  
NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☒ X yes Name of District: Spring Grove Hospital Center  
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☒ X yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☒ X A ☐ B ☒ X C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

#BA 157 (Bowlin, 1986); Project Review & Compliance Files; Spring Grove Architectural Survey Notebook

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Spring Grove Hospital Center, Catonsville, Baltimore County was initially determined eligible for the Maryland Register of Historic Properties in 1986. Trust policy is that any property eligible for the MRHP is also eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Spring Grove is eligible under Criterion A, events, as the first state-sponsored facility for the mentally ill. The hospital had its origins in 1797 where the indigent sick and insane were cared for in Baltimore. By 1872 the hospital had outgrown its site and the state chose a new 200-acresite in Catonsville. The District is also eligible under Criterion C, as an architectural example. The hospital center does not have a specific layout, but rather its growth and development are demonstrated through the construction of buildings in response to new needs and developments in the care of the mentally ill. The 1985 survey included 25 buildings built between 1872 and 1944. All are eligible contributing resources to the historic district.

[\*from Spring Grove Hospital Center DOE]

As a result of the recently completed survey, 25 buildings have been determined to be historically and architecturally significant to the development of public mental health care in Maryland at Spring Grove Hospital Center. This property, BA-2336, Rice Auditorium, was included on the list of significant properties. (See Bowlin, 1985)

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☒ X Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ X A ☐ B ☒ X C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

MHT Comments

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Superintendants House, Spring Grove

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BA-2344

Prepared by: L. Bowlin, 1985 (MHT)

Date Prepared: \_\_\_\_\_

BA-2344

1940

Superintendent's House

Public

Spring Grove Hospital Center

Catonsville

The Superintendent's House is a two a half story building constructed in common bond brick. Designed by Henry P. Hopkins, the building displays elements of the Colonial Revival style. The L shaped dwelling exhibits a steeply-pitched roof as does the one story brick garage adjacent to the building.

Survey No. BA-2344

Magi No. 0323444804

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Superintendent's House

and/or common The Mansion

### 2. Location

Spring Grove Hospital Center

street &amp; number

☐ not for publication

city, town Catonsville

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

3

state

Maryland

county

Baltimore

### 3. Classification

#### Category

☐ district  
☒ building(s)  
☐ structure  
☐ site  
☐ object

#### Ownership

☒ public  
☐ private  
☐ both  
**Public Acquisition**  
☐ in process  
☐ being considered  
☐ not applicable

#### Status

☒ occupied  
☐ unoccupied  
☐ work in progress  
**Accessible**  
☒ yes: restricted  
☐ yes: unrestricted  
☐ no

#### Present Use

☐ agriculture  
☐ commercial  
☐ educational  
☐ entertainment  
☐ government  
☐ industrial  
☐ military  
☐ museum  
☐ park  
☐ private residence  
☐ religious  
☐ scientific  
☐ transportation  
☒ other: Hospital

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street &amp; number

201 West Preston Street

telephone no.: 301-225-6816

city, town

Baltimore

state and zip code

Maryland 21201

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Baltimore County Courthouse

liber

street &amp; number

folio

city, town

Towson

state

Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. BA-2344

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Superintendent's House is a two-and-a-half story, common bond brick building, designed in the Colonial Revival style. Built in 1940 as a home for the superintendent, the residence is located east of the Foster-Wade Building and north of the Stone Cottage Group. The building is currently being used as office space.

The Superintendent's House displays an L shape configuration. The dominant facade faces south and measures five bays wide and three bays deep. The extension which gives the building its L shape is two bays by two bays and projects from the northwest portion of the main block. A one-story brick garage stands adjacent to the house. Both the dwelling and the garage have steeply-pitched roofs and painted white bricks.

The dominant facade of five bays wide displays a broken pedimented doorway flanked by two windows on each side. The classical entrance has fluted pilasters, three rosettes across the abacus, scrollwork on the frieze, and dentil course on the cornice and the broken pediment. Centered in the broken pediment, a wooden urn rests. A beaded surround adorns the doorway. The door itself displays a fanlight window.

Wooden shutters and sills, a 6/6 double-hung sash, and a brick jack arch lintel characterize the first floor windows throughout the building. The second story windows repeat the pattern minus the brick lintel. Decorative wrought-iron fixtures retain the shutters.

Wooden modillions and dentils embellish the cornice. The slate, truncated hip roof begins above the cornice. Hipped dormers appear throughout the roof's surfaces. The dormers exhibit a similar pattern of a 6/6 double-hung sash, slate roof and wooden sills.

The eastern wall has an external wall chimney. Doors flank the chimney on both floors. In addition, the face exhibits a two-story portico based on a brick foundation. Wrought-iron pillars and balustrade add a decorative appearance to the portico. A steeply-pitched hip roof caps the portico.

The one story brick garage is joined to the main house by a slate, gable roof and a cement walkway. The common bond brick structure shows a retractable, wooden door on the east wall. The one car garage measures two bays by two bays and displays a simple cornice.

The interior of the dwelling perpetuates the Colonial Revival style. The floor plan reveals a central hallway flanked by two rooms on each side. The wide stairway consumes most of the hallway. The main parlor exhibits wainscoting, dentilled cornice, and an elaborate mantle with fluted pilasters,

7. Description  
continuation

BA-2344

rosettes, and miniature triglyphs. In contrast to this classicism, the interior of the building also displays a current fashion of the 1940's: Art Deco bathrooms. Brightly colored tiles and streamlined metal light fixtures characterize two of the bathrooms. The Superintendent's House received more interior detail than many of the buildings at Spring Grove. The decoration of the dwelling reflects the importance of the inhabitant's position and the public function of the building.

## 8. Significance

Survey No.

BA-2344

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1940 Builder/Architect Henry Powell Hopkins

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Built during the administration of Silas W. Weltmer, the Superintendent's House provided the chief administrator with a new residence. Before the construction of the dwelling, the superintendent lived in private accommodations in the Main Building. The new residence for the superintendent allowed the administrator to live on the hospital property while removing him symbolically from the patients but still maintaining his position of authority. The superintendent held the ultimate power in the mental hospital environment and his home helped to reinforce that supremacy.

Henry Powell Hopkins broke from his usual pattern of Spring Grove buildings and designed a dwelling which complimented his earlier buildings but also showed an air of individuality. Leaving the cut limestone for the institutional buildings, Hopkins designed the Superintendent's House in brick, another one of his preferred construction materials. The architect utilized his trademark of academic classicism but added some different features such as the hipped roof, L shape plan, and shutters to give the building some individuality. While the exterior exhibits classical elements, the interior continues the ornamentation in detail. Few buildings on the campus have interior decoration of this extent, even the gatehouses show simple interiors. The decorative interior again reflects the influential resident of the dwelling.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-2344

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren L. Bowlin

organization Office Of Planning, DHMH date 6/86

street &amp; number 201 West Preston Street telephone 301-225-6816

city or town Baltimore state Maryland 21201

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438





BA-2344

SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE

SPRING GROVE HOSPITAL CENTER

CATONSVILLE, MARYLAND

SOUTH WALL

DON JEWELL, 4/86

NEGATIVES AT MHT



BA- 2344

SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE  
SPRING GROVE HOSPITAL CENTER  
CATONSVILLE, MARYLAND  
EAST WALL

DON JEWELL, 4/86

NEGATIVES AT MHT